UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Attorney Docket No.: 2001 1207A

First-Named Inventor: Masaharu MATSUMOTO et al.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. [X] Fee Transmittal Form (Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)

2. [] Small Entity Status is hereby asserted.

3. [X] Specification

[Total Pages: 105]

(preferred arrangement set forth below)

Descriptive title of the Invention Cross References to Related Applications

Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D

Reference to Sequence Listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix.

Background of the Invention

Brief Summary of the Invention

Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)

Detailed Description

Claim(s)

Abstract of the Disclosure

4 [X] Drawing(s) /35 USC 113/

[Total Sheets: 31] [Total Pages : 3]

[X] Oath or Declaration

a.1. [X] Newly executed (original or copy)

a.2. [] Unexecuted

[] Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)

i. [] DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)

Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

6 [] Application Data Sheet (see 37 CFR 1.76)

ADDRESS TO:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box Patent Application

Washington, D.C. 20231

7. [] CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or computer program (Appendix)

8. [] Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)

a. [] Computer Readable Form

b. Specification Sequence Listing on:

i. [] CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or

ii. Il Paper

c. [] Statement verifying

identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. [X] Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))

37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) 10. []

[] Power of Attorney

English Translation Document (if applicable) 11. []

Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449

[] Copies of IDS Citations

13. [] Preliminary Amendment

14. [X] Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)

15. [X] Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)

16. [] Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.

17. [X] Other CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119

If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below, and in a preliminary amendment, in an Application Data Sheet:

[] Continuation

II Divisional

[] Continuation-in-part (CIP)

of prior application No.

Prior Application Information: Examiner

Group Art Unit

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS



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Fax: (202) 721-8250 August 29, 2001

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

5 n.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masaharu MATSUMOTO et al.

Serial No. NEW

Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed August 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 2001 1207A

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT

AUCQUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir

Attached hereto is a check in the amount of \$1740.00 to cover Patent Office fees relating to filing the following attached papers:

\$40.00

Additional Claims Fee:

Independent \$720.00

A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted for use in the Accounting Division, Office of Finance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Masaharu MATSUMOTO et al.

Michael S. Huppert Registration No. 40,268 Attorney for Applicants

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